Today's News - April 25, 2006

New Suburbanism explained. – First look at Gehry's vision for Grand Avenue, but will retailers share the vision? – The problem with high rises is how not how they touch the sky, but they touch the street. – Insights on sustainability. – Condo project may not be the swankiest, but it's very green. – Piano expansion fits the Morgan "perfectly." – Chicago's Soldier Field loss of landmark status "likely to help prevent other historic landmarks from being similarly marred." – Plans for Mies library: "renovation fulle." – Making clear the difference between architects and quantity surveyors in Tanzania. – Why public spaces are so vital. – SFMoMA's shortlist for "a model of a new sort of urban plaza" atop a parking garage. – \$1 million for Holcim Awards for sustainable construction winners. – 2006 Venice Architecture Biennale's U.S. Pavilion to be led again by Arch Record.

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Op-Ed: What Is The New Suburbanism? Joel Kotkin introduces the new planning theory, clarifies what it means, and describes how it remains very much a work in progress. [link to podcast]- PLANetizen

Los Angeles With a Downtown? Gehry's Vision: ...striving for a design that would capitalize on Los Angeles's essential identity. -- Craig Webb; Laurie D. Olin [image]- New York Times

Retailers Not Sold on Grand Avenue: Building Frank Gehry's glass-curtained towers is just the beginning. The developers must lure back the kind of high-end retailers who began abandoning downtown Los Angeles 50 years ago. [images]- Los Angeles Times

The problem with most high-rises is how well they reach the street: ...architects and developers have inflicted cities with far more bad ones than good, both globally and locally. By Lawrence W. Cheek -- Weber+Thompson; Foster; Calatrava; MAD- Seattle Post-Intelligencer

<u>Tropical Green conference speakers give more insight into their stance on sustainability. - Chad Oppenheim; Guy Battle; Rick Fedrizzi; etc. [podcasts]- Metropolis Magazine</u>

Condo project painted 'green': Intracorp's Arterra development will not offer the most stunning views or the swankiest finishes, the highest prices or the best location. But it will likely be the kindest to the environment...San Francisco's first highrise condominium community given...LEED certification — Kwan Henmi- San Francisco Business Times

Piano's New Pavilion Puts Light on Morgan Library's Piazza: ...at last creating the setting its extraordinary collection merits...somewhat to my surprise, his bespoke style fits the Morgan perfectly. By James S. Russell- Bloomberg News

Soldier Field gets what it deserves: Lost landmark status may help other icons...likely to help prevent other historic landmarks from being similarly marred. By Blair Kamin – Wood + Zapata [slide show]- Chicago Tribune

Renovation Futile, Leaders Say: Mayor Williams's Plan to Vacate Renowned [Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library] Building Remains Divisive -- Mies van der Rohe (1972)-Washington Post

Architectural accidents 'avoidable': Is architecture and quantity surveying one and the same profession? Q&A with architect Engelbert M. Lipambila, Chairman of the Tanzania Architects and Quantity Surveyors Registration Board (AQRB)- Tansania Standard

Room to be heard: Immigration rallies remind us why public spaces are vital. By Blair Kamin -- Project for Public Spaces- Chicago Tribune

High above the city, contest gives local architects chance to spread their wings: Six up-and-coming architectural firms are in the running to create a sculpture garden for the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art...lt can be a model of a new sort of urban plaza that celebrates the vivid potential of those leftover spaces found in every city -- even something as forlorn as the top of a parking garage. By John King -- Mario Botta; Mark Cavagnero Associates; EnvelopeA+D; Fougeron Architecture; Jensen & Macy; Kuth/Ranieri; Pfau Architecture llink to mages]- San Francisco Chronicle

Holcim Awards honor sustainable construction: Winners of first worldwide competition for sustainable construction projects announced...\$1 million awarded...Gold: urban integration project in Caracas, Venezuela, and the design for a new main railway station in Stuttgart, Germany -- Proyectos Arqui 5 CA; Ingenhoven und Partner Architeckten; etc.- Holcim Foundation

16 Winners from Across China to Receive 2006 BusinessWeek/Architectural Record China Awards — Jiakun Architect & Associates; Li Xiaodong Atelier; Urbanus; Atelier Deshaus; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Sasaki Associates; EDAW; Chang Bene Design; Tsao & McKown Architects; Pei Partnership; etc. [images]- Architectural Record

Curators named for 2006 Venice Architecture Biennale's U.S. Pavilion: ...the editors of Architectural Record...Robert lwy has been named commissioner for the United States...will focus on..."Designing the Future of New Orleans: An International Competition for New Housing in New Orleans"...- The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

-- Competition Winner: Lab architecture studio: Riyadh Business Center, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- C.F. Møller Architects: Darwin Centre Phase Two, London, UK

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